

Miller's House, Irvine Estate
Irvine, Warren County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-526

HABS
PA
62-IRV,
2B-

Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Northwestern Pa.

Historic American Buildings Survey
J. Howard Hicks, District Officer
Erie, Pennsylvania

MILLER'S HOUSE, IRVINE ESTATE
Irvine, Warren County, Pennsylvania

HABS
PA
68-1001
28-

Owner: Miss M. E. l. Newbold

Date of Erection: c. 1840

Architect: Dr. W. A. Irvine

Builder: J. M. Halliday

Present Condition: Poor

Materials of Construction: Stone

Additional Data: See data on PA-525

THE IRVINE PROPERTIES
Irvine, Warren County, Pennsylvania

House B, the Miller's House

House B, which was also the miller's house, stands almost directly northcast of the 'farm house'. A lane leads across the fertile fields from the farm house to it. The mill is located a few yards to the right hand of the miller's house, a little farther to the east or south-east. A feeder of the Brokenstraw was formerly the race which supplied the water power necessary to run the mill. The miller's house faces the east or approximately the east. The main entrance is placed about the center of the building with a window on each side, of irregular sash, the lower having 6 lights of glass and the upper having 9 lights of glass. There are two windows directly above those of the first floor, on the second floor, but fitted with regular sash, six lights of glass in each. There are two windows and a central door in the south elevation, one window in the west elevation first floor and two windows on the second floor. The west or rear of the house faces towards the farm house.

The east and south elevation entrances have doors made like the doors in House A or the 'farm house', two small panels at the top, longer panels below, shorter panels at the bottom. These doors are constructed rather peculiarly as to paneling. If the door were turned sideways, the upper part would resemble the Union Jack of the British nation. The space between the panels also forms a cross, which some call 'witch doors'. However, it must be remembered that "Jamie" Halliday was a Scotchman and that the Irving family are proud of the fact that they are of Irish descent.

On the west elevation is an opening to what is the cellar or rather an old-fashioned cellar, dug out of the ground with dirt floor and a very decided slope in place of steps. The roof is a hipped roof with asphalt shingles. There is a brick chimney.

The main or east entrance door leads into the living room. A door in the south-west corner leads out into the kitchen. This door is located quite close to the south entrance door which leads into the kitchen. Enclosed stairs lead from the kitchen to the second floor and another stairway under the first one leads to the cellar, steps of which are missing. The second floor has two bed rooms and hall with stairwell. The stair rail is missing from the second floor. Two doorways lead from the hall into the bed rooms, one door missing.

The kitchen has a very large mantel, made of rubble stone and pine wood. One-half the height of the opening is fitted with an iron plate, probably of more recent construction than the house. The hearth of this fireplace is missing. On the face, the opening is surrounded with smooth sandstone. On one side of the mantel, shelving runs up to the ceiling. The shelving is open, no doors, nor indications that there ever were doors. The living room has a false mantel. A door

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from the kitchen opens to the cellar stairs. Formerly there were two chimneys, the one in the center of the house now starts at the second floor. The kitchen chimney on the roof has been removed.

Brush and a growth of small trees have grown up about the mill and the miller's house.

DW 9/4/37